

MEETING SUMMARY
WATER QUALITY ADVISORY GROUP
January 8, 2001

Members Attending

William Anderson, agricultural community (13-18)
Vince Berg, business community (16-18)
Carter McCamy, business community, Chair (16-18)
Hend Galal-Gorchev, scientific/academic community (14-18)
Doug Holy, environmental community (6-6)
Robert Johnson, scientific/academic community (14-18)
Chris Namovicz, public-at-large (15-18)
Marshall Rea, agricultural community, Vice-chair (17-18)
Diane S. Shea, public-at-large (13-17)
Paula Wang, environmental community (14-17)

Public Agency Reps

Dr. Mohammad Habibian, public agency, WSSC (17-17)
Cameron Wiegand, public agency, DEP (17-17)
Jeff Zyontz, public agency, M-NCPPC (14-17)

Members Absent

John Buric, agricultural community (~~13-18~~)* *weather-related, NOT a missed meeting*
Jeff Longsworth, public-at-large (15-18)
Lynn Mayo, scientific/academic community (12-16)
Shobhana Sharma, business community (~~5-6~~) * *weather-related, NOT a missed meeting*
Kraig Walsleben, environmental community (14-18)

Others Attending

Chris Choppin, EQR
Boyd Church, DEP
Diane M. Davis, DEP
Doug Redmond, M-NCPPC

Welcome & Discussion/Approval of Agenda & Previous Month's Summary

The Chair introduced an attendee from his company who might be interested in applying for a slot in the Spring. He said that he would like to add time on the agenda to discuss membership procedures. The Group agreed. A member noted a correction to November's summary, and Doug Holy moved to approve the modified agenda and corrected summary. Diane Shea seconded.

Sediment Control Issues Continued

The Chair reported to the Group that he had met with Robert Hubbard, Director of Department of Permitting Services (DPS), and Jennifer Hughes of the County Council to better clarify issues which the WQAG had been exploring. The Chair, Vice Chair and Ms. Davis, the Coordinator were in attendance at this informal and fact-finding meeting. Mr. McCamy reported that the outcome of that meeting led him to a conclusion that DPS and the Council are communicating effectively with each other.

There had been information emailed to selected members by Mr. Berg. The Chair reminded Mr. Berg and the Group that *all* members, voting and non-voting, must receive distributions in an equal manner of timeliness and openness. Mr. McCamy asked Mr. Berg about a resolution which had been emailed to members before the meeting. Vince Berg presented a draft resolution as follow-up to *1997 Sediment Control Task Force Report*. After substantial discussion, the Group elected to table the document indefinitely. Mr. Berg briefly went over several other informational items he distributed (those absent from the meeting will need to contact Mr. Berg for these materials).

Public Outreach

Ms. Davis showed a presentation outlining DEP's activities with youth and adults (handouts available for those absent from meeting). Items covered include:

- Stream Teams Program – approx. 120+ schools registered, with varying degrees of activity; many more private schools are joining the program; actions extend beyond biological monitoring to stream restoration and habitat enhancement projects in grades 4-12; also includes Envirothon competition, homeschool groups, Boy/Girl Scouts, and other youth endeavors.
- Adult Outreach – DEP attends most all County functions (Ag Fair, Local Watershed HOA meetings, etc.); has an active Speakers Bureau which goes to many venues to present; has very instructive website which shows increasing usage over time (www.askdep.com); for CIP, the staff conducts direct mailings and hold many individual neighborhood meetings to present restoration goals, activities, etc.; works closely with many environmental and other groups, such as Izaak Walton League, Friends of Cabin John Creek Watershed, Audubon Naturalist Society, etc. to help in the formation of watershed groups and provide instruction for biological monitoring so they can conduct own monitoring and/or report illicit activities.

Several members were complimentary of the aggressive DEP outreach program, and offered very positive feedback about the programs.

Then the Group held a discussion about maintaining a web presence for WQAG. The end result was that DEP would post simple text such as agendas, summaries, and members' information (as they indicated). If the Group wished to get more (electronically) sophisticated over time, additional discussion would be necessary, along with additional resources. Mr. Wiegand was firm about the limited role to be played by DEP, but that the Coordinator, Ms. Davis, would be the appropriate person to implement the Group's request.

Membership

The Chair reminded the Group that three members had terms which expired in May of this year. Recruiting is bolstered when incumbents refer candidates who will later receive the application announcement in March or April. He recommended that any members wishing to nominate, either themselves or another, for Vice-chair do so before the February meeting by sending it to Ms. Davis in advance of that meeting. Mr. Namovicz then moved to have the Vice-Chair position fulfill one year term until determined otherwise. It was unanimously agreed upon.

Annual Meeting with the Executive

Ms. Davis reminded the Group that this event was later in the same week and explained the new format, with preference for the Chair and Vice Chair to present due to time constraints. All members may attend, but streamlining is encouraged by the Executive's office.

Continued Business

- Chesapeake Bay Update – [group declined to hear this until future date](#).
- State Trash Effort – Ms. Davis told of a state level effort with MDE and DNR to focus on trash and how this might affect the WQAG, Mr. Berg volunteered.
- Jeff Zyontz, M-NCPPC, told that effective this spring, homebuyers purchasing in a Special Protection Area must have full disclosure and he will speak to the Group more about this soon.

Next Month's Agenda Topics

- Green Buildings Technology – Mr. Rea said he might know whom to contact in the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Mr. McCamy mentioned contacts in the homebuilders association for a presentation.
- Forest Preservation Task Force – Cameron Wiegand, DEP, said he would like to present at the February meeting to better inform the Group of the extensive efforts underway.
- Membership – Group to execute Vice-chair nominations.
- Meeting with Executive – Chairman to briefly report.